location for opening of Post Offices depends on merits of each case.

Laying of New Railway Line in Haryana

6426. COL. RAO RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects pending with the Union Government for laying new rail lines in Haryana;

(b) since when each of these projects is pending;

(c) the reasons for delay in clearance of these projects; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to expeditious clearance of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No project for laying new lines in Haryana is pending. However, a survey for regional bye-pass line from Khurja to Rohtak via Palwal-Rewari has been completed.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

New Terminal Building of Vadodara Airport

6427. SHRI SANAT MEHTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain complaints with regard to new terminal building of Vadodara airport were made to the Ministry;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard to rectify and what steps are yet to be taken;

(c) whether the central airconditioning system at new air terminal is expected to start functioning; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Steps have been taken to rectify the defects. Contracts have been awarded to a reputed hotel to operate the restaurant at the airport. The Baggage trolleys have been increased to 150. Security Hold area has been airconditoned. Car parking area will be expanded. Action has been taken to ensure cleanliness and upkeep of the terminal building.

(c) and (d) The central air conditioning system of the terminal building at Vadodara airport is expected to start functioning by the end of June, 1997.

Sub-Standard Material Supplied by SAIL

6428. SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY:

SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to

(a) whether it is a fact that rails supplied by the Steel Authority of India cracked up at the site of Maharashtra and Assam;

(b) if so, the details of such quantity;

(c) whether the Government have decided to import rail from foreign countries in view of the sub-standard material supplied by SAIL; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and quality of rail proposed to be imported including the name of that country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. Some rails supplied by Bhilai Steel Plant (SAIL) fractured during handling stage at the site of Maharashtra and Assam.

(b) Nearly 32,000 tonnes out of the lots manufactured and despatched during January, 1997 by Bhilai Steel Plant have not been accepted as yet by Railways treating these rails as suspect rails on quality considerations.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Diversion of Train to Hubli

6429. SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "PM seeks diversion of train to Hubli" appearing in the Indian Express dated February 8, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that the railway routes are developed according to public demands and not at whims of politicians/bureaucrats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Though some public representations were received for diversion of Chennai-Mumbai train via Hubli, no suggestion was received from the then Prime Minister. These were examined and not found feasible.

(c) Train services on the various routes are planned based on public demand, operational feasibility and resource availability.

AI Direct Service to Chicago

6430. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS:

SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVIN CHANDRA MEHTA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased